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In This Issue:

| | |
|--|----------|
| January Cattle | 1 |
| January Sheep & Goats | 2 |
| Livestock Slaughter | 2 |
| Apples | 3 |
| Peaches | 3 |
| Fresh Market Vegetables | 3 |
| Chicken & Eggs | 4 |
| Ag Economic Survey | 4 |

Cattle Numbers Fall as Prices Remain High

The total number of cattle and calves in Tennessee on January 1, 2005, was 2.17 million head, 2 percent below last year's total of 2.21 million and the lowest since 2001. This information is based on a recent cattle survey conducted by USDA's Tennessee Agricultural Statistics. Debra Kenerson, State Director, remarked, "Record level beef cattle prices throughout the year resulted in increased marketings and helped fuel Tennessee sales. Although inventory numbers for cows and calves dropped from a year ago, replacement heifer numbers rose as producers look to rebuild their breeding stock." Results of the survey showed the following breakout of inventory on January 1, 2005, with comparison to last year: **Beef cows** totaled 1.08 million, down 2 percent;

Milk cow numbers were 72,000, down 6 percent; **Calves**

190,000 head, were up 9 percent. Tennessee's 2004 **Calf crop** decreased 4 percent from 2003 to 1.02 million head.

U.S. January 1 Cattle Inventory Up 1 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2005, totaled 95.8 million head, 1 percent above the 94.9 million on January 1, 2004. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.1 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2004. **Beef cows**, at 33.1 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2004, and **milk cows**, at 9.01 million, were up slightly from January 1, 2004.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2005, and the change from January 1, 2004, are as follows: **All heifers** 500 pounds and over, 19.7 million, up 2 percent; **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.75 million, up 4 percent; **Milk replacement heifers**, 4.13 million, up 3 percent; **Other heifers**, 9.79 million, down slightly; **Steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, up 1 percent; **Bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.22 million, up 1 percent; **Calves under 500 pounds**, 15.4 million, up 1 percent; **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.7 million, down slightly. The combined total of **calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds** outside of feedlots was 27.9 million, up 2 percent. The **2004 calf crop** was estimated at 37.6 million head, down 1 percent from 2003. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, down 1 percent from 2003.

Cattle and Calves: Number on Farms by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2004-2005

| Class | Tennessee | | | United States | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------|-----------|-------------------|--------|-----------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2005/2004 | 2004 ¹ | 2005 | 2005/2004 |
| | Thousand Head | | Percent | Thousand Head | | Percent |
| All Cattle and Calves | 2,210 | 2,170 | 98 | 94,888 | 95,848 | 101 |
| All Cows That Have Calved | 1,180 | 1,150 | 97 | 41,851 | 42,060 | 101 |
| Beef | 1,103 | 1,078 | 98 | 32,861 | 33,055 | 101 |
| Milk | 77 | 72 | 94 | 8,990 | 9,055 | 100 |
| Heifers, 500 pounds plus | 285 | 310 | 109 | 19,344 | 19,672 | 102 |
| Beef Replacement | 185 | 195 | 105 | 5,518 | 5,746 | 104 |
| Milk Replacement | 35 | 40 | 114 | 4,020 | 4,133 | 103 |
| Other | 65 | 75 | 115 | 9,806 | 9,793 | 100 |
| Steers, 500 pounds plus | 110 | 115 | 105 | 16,277 | 16,511 | 101 |
| Bulls, 500 pounds plus | 75 | 75 | 100 | 2,206 | 2,219 | 101 |
| Calves, under 500 pounds | 560 | 520 | 93 | 15,210 | 15,385 | 101 |
| Calf Crop ² | 1,060 | 1,020 | 96 | 37,903 | 37,625 | 99 |
| Cattle on Feed | 5 | 5 | 100 | 13,813 | 13,749 | 100 |

¹ Revised. ² Calves born during previous 12 months.

Tennessee Ranks Second in Meat Goats Sheep Inventory Up 5 Percent

The total number of **meat goats** in Tennessee on January 1, 2005, was 98,000 head, while **milk goats** totaled 6,200 head. Tennessee ranks second in the nation in number of meat goats and seventeenth in milk goats. The total number of **sheep and lambs** in the State on January 1, 2005, was 23,000, 5 percent above last year's total of 22,000 head. Breeding inventory, at 20,000 head, remained constant with last year, while market inventory increased 1,000 to 3,000 head for 2005. Tennessee's 2004 lamb crop also remained unchanged from 2003 at 15,000 head.

U.S. January Sheep and Goat Inventory

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2005, totaled 6.14 million head, up slightly from 2004, but 3 percent below two years ago. The inventory has leveled off and is showing a slight increase for the first time since 1990. The 2004 **lamb crop** of 4.10 million head, a record low, was down 1 percent from 2003. **All goat** inventory in the United States on January 1, 2005, totaled 2.5 million head. **Breeding goat** inventory totaled 2.1 million head and **market goats** totaled 0.4 million head. On January 1, 2005, **meat and all other goats** totaled 1.97 million head, **milk goats** totaled 283,500 head, and **angora goats** totaled 274,000 head. The 2004 **kid crop** was 1.67 million head for all goats.

Sheep and Lambs: Number on Farms by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2004 -2005

| Class | Tennessee | | | United States | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|------|-----------|---------------|---------|-----------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2005/2004 | 2004 | 2005 | 2005/2004 |
| | Thousand Head | | Percent | Thousand Head | | Percent |
| All Sheep and Lamb | 22.0 | 23.0 | 105 | 6,105.0 | 6,135.0 | 100 |
| Total Breeding | 20.0 | 20.0 | 100 | 4,499.0 | 4,533.0 | 101 |
| Ewes, One Yr. & Older | 14.0 | 14.0 | 100 | 3,609.5 | 3,572.5 | 99 |
| Rams, One Yr. & Older | 1.5 | 1.5 | 100 | 188.0 | 190.0 | 101 |
| Replacement Lambs | 4.5 | 4.5 | 100 | 701.5 | 770.5 | 110 |
| Total Market | 2.0 | 3.0 | 150 | 1,606.0 | 1,602.0 | 100 |
| Market Lambs | 1.8 | 2.8 | 156 | 1,540.4 | 1,527.9 | 99 |
| Market Sheep | 0.2 | 0.2 | 100 | 65.6 | 74.1 | 113 |
| Lamb Crop ¹ | 15.0 | 15.0 | 100 | 4,140.0 | 4,096.0 | 99 |
| Sheep Shorn ² | 16.0 | 16.0 | 100 | 5,074.0 | 5,073.0 | 100 |

¹ Lambs and kids born during previous 12 months. ² Sheep shorn during previous 12 months.

U.S. Livestock Slaughter: Cattle slaughter totaled 2.69 million head, up 1 percent from December 2003. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,268 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 74,700 head, down 23 percent from December 2003. The average live weight was 12 pounds above last year, at 334 pounds. Hog kill totaled 9.25 million head, 1 percent below December 2003. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 270 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 242,400 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, up 3 pounds from December a year ago.

Livestock Slaughter¹: United States, December 2003 & 2004

| Species | Number | | Total | | Average | |
|---------|------------|-------|--------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 |
| | 1,000 Head | | 1,000 Pounds | | Pounds | |
| Cattle | 2,675 | 2,691 | 3,329,388 | 3,410,781 | 1,244 | 1,268 |
| Calves | 97 | 75 | 31,413 | 24,932 | 322 | 334 |
| Hog | 9,361 | 9,250 | 2,518,208 | 2,496,511 | 269 | 270 |
| Sheep | 262 | 242 | 35,952 | 33,846 | 137 | 140 |

¹ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).

Commercial Apples: Production, Price, and Value, Tennessee, 1999-2004¹

| Crop Year | Total Production ² | Utilized Production ³ | Price per Pound ⁴ | Value of Production ⁵ |
|-----------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Million Pounds | | Cents | 1,000 Dollars |
| 1999 | 11.0 | 9.5 | 21.8 | 2,075 |
| 2000 | 10.5 | 9.5 | 25.0 | 2,376 |
| 2001 | 10.5 | 8.0 | 24.0 | 1,923 |
| 2002 | 7.2 | 6.1 | 26.5 | 1,619 |
| 2003 | 12.0 | 11.5 | 25.2 | 2,903 |
| 2004 | 11.0 | 10.5 | 26.3 | 2,765 |

¹"Commercial" refers to the total production in orchards of 100 or more bearing age trees. ²Total production is the quantity actually harvested plus quantities which were not harvested because of economic or natural reasons. ³Utilized production is the amount sold plus the quantities used at home or held in storage. ⁴Average for all methods of sale. ⁵Value of production is price times utilized production.

Commercial Peaches: Production, Price, and Value, Tennessee, 1999-2004¹

| Crop Year | Total Production ² | Utilized Production ³ | Price per Ton ⁴ | Value of Production ⁵ |
|-----------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Tons | | Dollars | 1,000 Dollars |
| 1999 | 1,550 | 1,500 | 940 | 1,410 |
| 2000 | 1,250 | 1,150 | 1,090 | 1,254 |
| 2001 | 1,850 | 1,750 | 968 | 1,694 |
| 2002 | 2,000 | 1,850 | 940 | 1,739 |
| 2003 | 1,750 | 1,600 | 1,030 | 1,645 |
| 2004 | 1,950 | 1,800 | 1,070 | 1,926 |

¹"Commercial" refers to the total production in orchards of 100 or more bearing age trees. ²Total production is the quantity actually harvested plus quantities which were not harvested because of economic or natural reasons. ³Utilized production is the amount sold plus the quantities used at home or held in storage. ⁴Average for all methods of sale. ⁵Value of production is price times utilized production.

Fresh Market Vegetables: Acreage, Yield, Production, and Value, Tennessee 1999-2004

| Crop & Year | Acreage | | Yield Per Acre | Production | Price per Cwt. | Value of Production |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------|----------------|------------|----------------|---------------------|
| | Planted | Harvested | | | | |
| | Acres | | Cwt. | 1,000 Cwt. | Dollars | 1,000 Dollars |
| Tomatoes | | | | | | |
| 1999 | 3,900 | 3,600 | 230 | 828 | 29.00 | 24,012 |
| 2000 | 4,200 | 3,900 | 290 | 1,131 | 31.00 | 35,061 |
| 2001 | 4,000 | 3,400 | 165 | 561 | 20.00 | 11,220 |
| 2002 | 4,600 | 4,300 | 340 | 1,462 | 33.00 | 48,246 |
| 2003 | 4,900 | 4,600 | 350 | 1,610 | 37.00 | 59,570 |
| 2004 | 6,700 | 6,200 | 200 | 1,240 | 34.00 | 42,160 |
| Snapbeans | | | | | | |
| 1999 | 10,000 | 8,000 | 38 | 304 | 28.80 | 8,755 |
| 2000 | 10,500 | 9,200 | 36 | 331 | 26.00 | 8,606 |
| 2001 | 9,300 | 8,000 | 41 | 328 | 30.00 | 9,840 |
| 2002 | 9,500 | 8,900 | 31 | 276 | 35.00 | 9,660 |
| 2003 | 10,500 | 9,500 | 43 | 409 | 29.00 | 11,861 |
| 2004 | 10,000 | 7,600 | 48 | 365 | 33.00 | 12,045 |
| Squash¹ | | | | | | |
| 2000 | 1,300 | 1,200 | 87 | 104 | 29.20 | 3,033 |
| 2001 | 1,000 | 900 | 57 | 51 | 20.70 | 1,058 |
| 2002 | 1,400 | 1,200 | 96 | 115 | 21.80 | 2,508 |
| 2003 | 1,200 | 1,100 | 72 | 79 | 17.60 | 1,392 |
| 2004 | 1,200 | 1,000 | 95 | 95 | 22.30 | 2,116 |

¹ Estimates began in 2000. Includes processing.

Chicken & Eggs: Egg production totaled 7.70 billion during December 2004, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.62 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 62 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2004 averaged 345 million, up 2 percent from a year earlier. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,235 eggs, up 1 percent from December 2003.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced, Selected States and United States, During December 2003 & 2004

| Selected States | Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more | | All Layers ¹ | | Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹ | |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|-------------------------|---------|---|-------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 |
| | Thousands | | | | Number | |
| Alabama | 2,067 | 1,850 | 9,418 | 9,255 | 1,932 | 1,945 |
| Arkansas | 4,263 | 4,508 | 14,522 | 14,796 | 1,914 | 1,953 |
| Georgia | 11,531 | 10,991 | 20,672 | 20,023 | 2,095 | 2,177 |
| North Carolina | 3,404 | 3,370 | 10,775 | 10,934 | 2,005 | 1,994 |
| All Other States ² | 253,787 | 259,515 | 282,856 | 289,525 | 2,267 | 2,271 |
| United States | 275,052 | 280,234 | 338,243 | 344,533 | 2,223 | 2,235 |

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee included in other states.

Ag. Economic Survey Will Measure Farm Financial Health

Tennessee agricultural producers will have the opportunity to “let the facts be known” by participating in the 2004 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) conducted by USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). This study, beginning in mid-February, provides vital statistics about the financial well-being of America’s agricultural producers. Most importantly, these statistics are used by members of the agricultural community and their legislators when making important decisions that impact the future of America’s farmers and ranchers. Data collected will present the only objective, true picture of the financial well-being of Tennessee farm operators and will provide an accurate portrayal as Congress assesses the impact of the Farm Bill. These data are also used as a resource when determining Federal assistance.

Questions about ARMS will be answered Feb. 22, 2005, on RFD-TV, a basic channel on DISH Network (9409), DIRECTV (379), Mediacom and NCTC cable systems, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. ET. The 60-minute program will inform the public about ARMS and the importance of survey participation. The program, hosted by Max Armstrong, will feature officials of USDA’s NASS, and the Economic Research Service. Previously recorded, the show will include viewer call-in questions and responses from USDA officials. “As public servants, it is crucial that we provide a way for America’s farmers and ranchers to ask us questions and to receive accurate information. Our appearance on RFD-TV is one way to meet that goal, to get out the facts about ARMS and to offer an open line of communication with millions of Americans,” explained NASS Administrator Ron Bosecker.

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